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THE DEMOCRACY.

ADDRESS OF COL. BROWNING, COUNTY CHAIRMAN.

The following address was read by Col. Malcolm I. Browning, our efficient County Chairman, before the County Convention, on June 21, 1879:

To the Democratic County Convention, Greeting:

The exigencies of political life have called you from your homes, and peaceful pursuits at this interesting period of the agricultural year. This is an exemplification of the fact that it is the people who choose, as they should, their own—not rulers—but public servants!

The office of Probate Judge, which has the care of the succession of property, involving the duty of carrying out the wishes of the departed, and the guardianship of the widow and orphan; and the office of one of the Board of County Commissioners, which is charged with the internal police and finance of your county, are about to become vacant by operation of law; the former on the 6th of July proximo, and the latter on the 1st day of November next. You are called together, under the regulations of your party, to nominate persons to fill these two important offices. The contemplation of the Constitution, and the intention of the Legislature are evidently that there should be but one general election for State and county officers, as most expedient, economical and convenient. As a further attempt to bring about this consummation the Legislature at its last session, by act of December 20, 1878, vol. 16, p. 716, provided that where vacancies occur in county offices, the Governor shall appoint some fit and proper person to fill the vacancy, and that in all cases where the office is elective, the person so appointed shall hold his office until the next general election. It is under this act, without questioning its effect upon the tenure of the offices, that these vacancies are to be filled. By a previous act (A. A. May 31, 1877, vol. 16, p. 230,) and by Sec. 11, Art. 4, of the Constitution, the Governor could thus fill by appointment these offices, where the unexpired term is less than one year. One of the cases now before us, that of the County Commissioner, would fall under the previous act. The last statute, however, provides that the Governor appoint, until the next general election, irrespective of the length of the unexpired term.

Inasmuch as these offices were elective, although to be filled, *pro hac vice* by appointment, the County Executive Committee, thought a Convention should express the choice of the people as to the appointees, and I, as County Chairman, was authorized to call you together.

So that it is your duty to say what persons are the choice of your party to be appointed to fill the offices of Probate Judge and of County Commissioner from the expiration of their respective terms, until the next general election.

Remember that you are the representatives of the people who sent you here as you discharge the duty.

Before proceeding to its performance you will indulge me in a few words:

As I stated to the Executive Committee when I had the honor of first meeting them, most of you are familiar with the circumstances under which the duties of the office of County Chairman devolved upon me. My predecessor to the great regret of his party resigned the post which he had so well filled since the office was created. The unanimous voice of the Convention selected Hon. Samuel Dibble as his successor. He courteously, but peremptorily declined. Then a scene of confusion followed as name after name was suggested, only to be withdrawn. Nearly every one declined. Among the other names, mine was suggested and after several declinations, the Convention evidently at a loss what to do, elected me. None were more surprised or dismayed at such a choice than myself! The Convention hastily adjourned and I was left to realize my difficult and responsible position. I had even hoped that my predecessor would hold over until his successor qualified, and I hesitated to enter upon any active discharge of duty. In this posture of affairs, a peremptory summons came from the Chairman of the State Executive

Committee, as to the production of testimony in our behalf before the Teller Congressional Committee, then sitting at Charleston. I earnestly requested Gen. Izlar to attend, urging that his being in charge of affairs, during the last canvass and election, better fitted him for the duty. He was unable to do so. Some one had to go down. Leaving professional engagements, I went out of court, after arguing a case until a late hour of the night, and spent a week in Charleston in constant attendance upon the sessions of the Committee and General Kennedy and others in conference. I returned to send witnesses down at my own expense to testify before the Committee. I had the gratification of receiving the verbal and flattering thanks of Hon. M. P. O'Connor and of Gen. Kennedy, and have a letter from the latter generously thanking me for my assistance. Thus was I, as it were, plunged into the duties of my position. It is due to Gen. Izlar to say that on this and subsequent occasions he has aided me with his suggestions and experience. I ask of you, and of every member of our party, as I asked of your Executive Committee, to let this result flow out from the position in which we are mutually placed; that each one feel the greater responsibility and realize the necessity for better and more earnest attention to party duties, because you have a pilot to whom you are unaccustomed. To these personal remarks, which I ask you to indulge, I desire only to add that I bring to the discharge of duties which you know are onerous and hard and thankless in any case, and peculiarly so in my own, a single and sincere desire to do some good for this people. I have no selfish end to gain; no "axe to grind;" no friend to press for preferment; no aspiration of my own, even to be a Notary Public, as the out-growth of my office; no wish even for compliment or praise, but simply a desire to possess the *mens conscia sibi* of having done my best. On the good men and true of my party, I shall rely for support until my brief term will expire at the opening of the next campaign; I shall expect that support, not for my own sake, but for the cause in which we are associated together! I ask your hearty and indulgent assistance and may God bless our endeavors to the promotion of the highest and truest interests of our whole people! This meeting is an interlude as it were. The duties here comparatively easy to be performed. But there cometh a time, in the near future, when every nerve and fibre of our political party, will be stretched to its utmost tension. Already the air is vibrant with the preparations for the gigantic struggle. The line of battle is being marked out at Washington; the opposing forces are contending for position in the great political duel of 1880. The next campaign will decide whether the dominance of the Democratic party is to be durable, or whether its present position in National politics is but a brief interregnum, which will pass and leave no permanent impress upon the destiny of the Republic. Each of the two great political parties have alternately had long leases of power! For a period of over thirty years the Democratic party swayed the destinies of our country and wrote its political and constitutional history! The end came when the Black Republican element made slavery the issue, and Abraham Lincoln their standard bearer; and at the hazard of even dismembering the Union, swept amid revolution and wreck into empire! Through those long years of our bitter experience its supremacy lasted, until its political issues being all effete and overpassed, perished in the hideous attempt to tear open the seams of a blood-cemented Union; and its peans over Union victory had bobbed out into a dirge over American liberty! And so the day dawned upon the darkest hour of night; and with United States soldiers with fixed bayonets in the capitol of our State, demanding passports of entry from the representatives of her people and the judges of her Supreme Court, Hampton became governor, and the exodus of the vandal viceroy was performed amid the fluttering of the wings of the Harpies, as they were flushed up from their feast upon a plundered State!

The next campaign must decide whether this advent of the great party that knows no human law higher than the Constitution, is to be its turn to guide for a period the policy of American affairs, or whether it was but a momentary stem in the tide of the flood of Republican triumph! Your organization, devotion, prompt and enthusiastic response to duty, or indifference and dissension will contribute to the solution of this grand problem. Let us realize this as we sit in council to-day, and carry the realization back to those homes we love, and to those pursuits in which we are engaged, in life's battle for bread, and comfort, and competence! Let the thoughts of the coming storm keep us vigilant, and prepare us for a grand onset that in its sublime irresistibility will be victory! Your club organizations must be maintained; where they have fallen asunder from neglect, they should be at once re-established. The central organization, the County Executive Committee, above all must be kept in working order. It consists of one member from each club. There are vacancies from two or three clubs. The clubs should fill these vacancies at once, and I desire this convention by a call of the clubs to ascertain the status of this committee. I have been engaged in ascertaining the indebtedness of the party, and have a plan by which every dollar of it will be paid at an early day.

Thus when the next campaign comes on apace, with thorough organization, no impediments with the experience of veterans and the prestige of victory, we may enter the field with confidence of success—a success that means the permanent establishment of capable, honest home government.

Let us act as in view of this grand issue! True to our party creed, yet conservators of the rights of our opponents, and treating them with exact and scrupulous justice! One of the grandest maxims of individual life ever uttered was this: "Work as if you expected to live forever; and live as if you expected to die to-day." This stern and rugged maxim applies to party duty! As members of a great party of historic memories, as South Carolinians, let us live as if we had to render an account of our political trusts before an exacting and all-knowing tribunal, and work as though we were building for all time the majestic structure of a government of the people that will fulfill its great aims of liberty and protection, upon whose facade our children's children will read the inscription *Esto perpetua*! I am your fellow-citizen, MALCOLM I. BROWNING, County Chairman.

His Garden.

Four or five city hall officials were sitting on the steps on the Woodward avenue side one afternoon, discussing politics and the weather, when a smallish man, seeming to be in considerable mental distress, approached them and enquired:

"Gentlemen, is there a scientific man here?"

"Certainly there is," they replied in a chorus.

"And you must be familiar with the laws governing storms?"

"We are," was the prompt answer.

"Well then," continued the stranger, "I wish to relate what may seem like a singular occurrence. I live on Davison Street, and though it began raining the other night at midnight, and continued for twenty-four hours, not a single drop of water fell on my garden."

"Is that possible!" gasped one after another.

"It's the solemn truth, gentlemen, and I'd like to know by what law of nature you can account for it! It was a long continued, drenching storm, yet not one drop of rain fell upon my garden."

There wasn't even room for a suggestion. The crowd were astonished and silent.

After a long minute one of the gentlemen turned to the stranger and asked:

"You must have a theory, haven't you?"

"I have."

"And what is it?"

"My theory, gentlemen, is that I rent rooms on the third floor, and had no garden for the rain to fall on!"

Five men rose up in chorus, brushed off their coat-tails, and followed each other into the hall in Indian file.—*Detroit Free Press.*

A FIRM DENIAL.

A REPLY TO DR. WEBSTER'S LETTER, RECENTLY PUBLISHED.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., June 26, 1879.

On Saturday, the 21st instant, a committee representing every part of the County, met agreeable to a request made by the citizens as follows:

ORANGEBURG, S. C., June 16, 1879.

DEAR SIR:—At a meeting of the citizens of the Courthouse, you were elected to serve as one of a committee to reply to certain libelous charges which have been written from here to the Northern press, in which our people are misrepresented in the severest possible light. The reply when prepared will be presented at a public mass meeting, and ordered to be printed. Please attend at the Courthouse building on Saturday, 21st, at 12 o'clock, M., to confer.

Yours Respectfully, &c.,

JOHN A. HAMILTON, Chairman.

COMMITTEE.

John A. Hamilton, S. R. Mellichamp, Col. A. D. Goodwin, Samuel Dibble, Dr. J. W. Summers, M. Glover, Dr. O. H. Ott, W. C. Hane, Dr. G. I. Quinn, Dr. W. F. Barton, Capt. J. S. Bowman, H. G. Sheridan, Hon. I. T. Sumner, E. G. Frederick, M. J. Keller, M. I. Browning, W. J. Snider, Dr. B. H. Knotts, Dr. O. N. Bowman, F. M. Wannamaker, D. L. Connor, Dr. W. S. Barton, W. J. DeTreville, D. L. Hildebrand, Capt. J. M. Davis, B. O. Evans, Rouse Bannister, G. D. Rush, J. W. Sellers, Capt. Slawson, F. W. Fairry.

There had been for years various misstatements, injurious and greatly unjust to the community, which, from sources not known, found publication in the leading papers of the North. It was unreasonable to have expected to refute these when a party press denied an impartial hearing, and when the clamor of contending political factions almost excluded calm discussion, and was hoped, and reasonably too, that when our State was favored with good government in 1876, and when order was brought out of chaos, that the bitterness of partisan hate would admit the change for the better, and that our work of sacrifice and forbearance would have its just reward at the hands of the most relentless.

While in the enjoyment of peace and security, while endeavoring to cultivate every opportunity for bringing about local and national good, will, while caring for and co-operating with the colored race to better its condition morally and intellectually, that his citizenship might be a credit to the State, and when in the view of success, we are met again and again by these statements in Northern papers which asperse and traduce with general and malignant charges. A letter of this character having appeared in the Tribune of May 6th, over the signature of Alonzo Webster, it was deemed proper to take some action upon it, and at the meeting of the Committee Mr. J. A. Hamilton was called to the chair, and after a calm and short discussion of the object of the call, the following papers were read, adopted and ordered to be published in the local papers, the News & Courier, and in the New York Tribune and Springfield Republican:

ORANGEBURG, S. C., June 21, 1879.

A statement over the signature of one A. Webster, published in the New York Tribune, of May 6th, misleads the Northern mind with regard to the true condition of the colored people among us, and equally so with regard to the attitude of the white citizens towards them. We feel it a duty to our people, and to those of the North who will suspend opinion even in view of so extreme a communication, to state that there is no such condition of affairs existing as represented, nor would there be a shadow out of which to form a pretext for such statements, were it not for such disappointed political aspirants as the writer of these letters and a few others of the same ilk whose chagrin finds vent against good government. Mr. Webster's profession is that of a minister of the Gospel, the spirit manifested is that of any thing else. Some of us know that he has persistently persecuted and sought to injure the influence of Northern ministers here, for no other reason than that they made friends among us, and eschewed active participation in politics. The cultivation of a neighborly and friendly intercourse with native citizens was a proof of "party" disloyalty and consequent unfitness. The reception given to these gentlemen, regardless of their private political views, has assured them of our desire for peace, while the ignoring of Mr. Webster's existence except as the cause of malicious mischief, is the expression of that honest indignation and contempt which is felt by a people who have received only malice at his hands. We know of no cause for nor dissatisfaction among the honest and industrious colored people. We know of no

proscription of the deserving colored man in any way. No combinations exist to deny the colored man the fruit of his labor. On the contrary we are in the midst of law and order. Acts of violence and lawlessness common to a few years back are not heard of. The largest and handsomest public school (Claffin) is exclusively for the colored people. A corps of four Northern, two native, and one colored teacher, direct its affairs. It is fostered and supported by the State, and is the equal of any school for the colored youth in the land. Our tax books show that inside of this corporation of a population of fifteen hundred, there have been built and paid for, thirty neat cottages, which with their lots of an acre or more belong to colored men. There are hundreds of colored men paying taxes on tracts of land from twenty-five to five hundred acres, and the laborer who has not secured his homestead and mule or horse is thought little of by his own people. The last political parade made by the colored people, when this Mr. Webster offered his private premises for the display saw at least seven hundred colored men mounted on their own mules or horses. We unhesitatingly say that a cordial, kind feeling exists among the races where no political teacher is found, and we are pleased to see that even the clerical politicians are losing influence with the colored man. We have no further aim in this than to allow the readers of Mr. Webster's letters to see the contradiction of their statements. Claiming to live in a section and a State where civil and religious works are to be compared with those of any part of the Union, where law is supreme, and where prosperity is certain if slow, we regret to state that Mr. Webster's letters are prompted by malice, and are not in accordance with facts. As men whose avocations are outside of politics, and freed from its emoluments, and with a desire for harmony and peace, we are ready to assert that the charges by this Mr. Webster against this people are not correct.

Revs. T. H. Legare, Presbyterian Church; Manning Brown, Presiding Elder M. E. Church, South; J. D. A. Brown, Pastor Presbyterian Church; O. A. Darby, Pastor St. Paul's Church, M. E. Church, South; J. F. Kiser, Pastor Evangelical Lutheran Church; Thos. A. Elliott, M. D., M. G. Salley, M. D., A. D. Goodwin, Lewis R. Evans, B. O. Evans, W. J. DeTreville, J. W. Sellers, F. M. Wannamaker, G. D. Rast, F. W. Fairry, J. W. Summers, M. D., Hugo G. Sheridan, W. S. Barton, M. D., John A. Hamilton, W. H. Perryclar, O. N. Bowman, John C. Rowe, Jno. L. Moore, James D. Trezevant, Daniel H. Trezevant, W. M. Hutson, Theodore Kohn, J. S. Cummings, J. G. Wannamaker, M. D., Henry Kohn, D. Louis, T. R. Malone, M. D., Thomas C. Albergetti, J. S. Albergetti, Alderman Town Orangeburg; Wm. Wilcock, J. C. Edwards, Jas. H. Fowles, O. H. Ott, M. D., W. J. Snider.

ORANGEBURG, S. C., June 21, 1879.

Certain letters having been written from this section, and published in Northern papers (including the Tribune) of wide circulation, which must have the effect of damaging our reputation as citizens of this community, inasmuch as they represent us as combining to defraud the colored people of the value of their labor, deny them civil and school privileges except in shadow, and otherwise act unjustly towards them as citizens. We deny the same *in toto*, and affirm that we enjoy peace and contentment with them, that the industries are respected and thriving, and that no section of this great country is less liable to the censure of political or race persecution than this.

J. H. Reneker, Germany, Merchant; John English, Ireland, Clerk; John Ogren, Sweden, Saddler; M. Albrecht, Germany, Shoemaker; Jas. B. Kelly, Ireland, Farmer; J. F. Aden, Germany, Merchant; J. Strauss, Germany, Miller; Thomas Ray, Ireland, Mechanic; O. Champey, Island of Guadalupe, Merchant; Joseph Loryea, Russia, Merchant; J. S. Sorcutrue, Russia, Merchant.

The names of the gentlemen signing are a guarantee of the calm, yet indignant, denial of the gratuitous abuse they have in common been subjected to. The sacredness of the pulpit has stamped it as without foundation in fact. The seclusion and retirement of venerable age has set its seal of denial. The moderation of the private citizen, and professional men has rebuked it as a slander. The few foreigners who form a valuable part of our community, and who have made our little town their home, join us in asserting that they too are misrepresented. To avoid any coloring of political or party sentiment, it was thought best to allow only the names of non-office-holders, and persons not prominent in politics to be attached, and it may be safely said that every part of this county is represented by a leading name. It was thought best too to avoid a mass meeting as first proposed, because of the pressure of time bearing on the

farmers, and to prevent any martyr capital to be made. One thing is sure the people know who it is that has misrepresented them, and they hope an indignant protest will make any further action to be properly represented unnecessary. Showing the matter in a light as seen by Dr. E. Cooke, a clergyman from Massachusetts, and one quite as reliable, according to the Springfield Republican, as the Tribune's correspondent. We quote from his letter of December 28, 1878:

"When correspondents of the Northern press come down here they are taken in hand by these disappointed ones who are filled with hate toward Southern people * * * and the next number of the papers such correspondents represent will come out at the North, with all the distortion and coloring of the facts which these disappointed haters can invent." * * * "Taxes have been levied to provide means for his (colored man's) education. Common schools have been greatly improved, and appropriations made to pay the interest on educational bonds squandered by previous administrations to Hampton's. The State is now struggling to pay off a school debt of more than \$300,000, the staple of previous officials. * * * "The opposition of the Southern whites is not to negro suffrage or negro office-holding, or to the rights of manhood, which the constitutional amendments secure, but the opposition is chiefly to turning again the government of the State over to carpet-bag and bayonet rule."

Our tax books show that the colored people of this county pay about one-seventh of the taxes, and that the aggregate value of property owned by them is \$93,000. There are 1846 colored children in the public schools, against 1211 white children. All the colored children are under colored teachers. It is hoped that this statement will have the effect of removing the cobwebs of prejudice from Northern eyes.

JOHN A. HAMILTON, Chairman of Committee.

Happy Marriages.

The universal expectation of married people is, that their married lives will always be happy ones. Deluded dreamers! They imagine that they are different from other people, and that when they enter the portals of matrimony, love, peace, and prosperity will ever be their attendants. Such had better consider themselves the same as others, but from iron resolutions to do different from other married people—resolutions that will keep them from the dangerous coasts on which so many have been wrecked and ruined. Unhappy marriages depend upon many causes. Previous to marriage, many try to appear more intellectual, and intelligent, more amiable or more accomplished than they really are. Depend upon it, that love brought into existence by a moonlight stroll, strengthened by deceit and fashionable displays, and finally consummated through the influence of intriguing friends, will fade in after life almost as fast as the flowers which compose the bridal wreath.

Death of Gen. R. H. Anderson.

This brave and noble corps commander of the Army of Northern Virginia died in Beaufort last week, where he was stationed as commissioners of the phosphate interests of the State. We had not been informed of the illness of General Anderson, and his sudden death will fall like a clap of thunder on his many devoted friends in all parts of the State, and especially upon the men who served under his gallant command. There could have been no death in this State which will awaken truer sympathy than of him, pronounced by General Lee "a most noble soldier." One by one the veterans sink to rest.—*Columbia Register.*

While George Schaffer, wife and child were riding near Terre Haute, Ind., their horse took fright and ran away. Mr. Schaffer was thrown out and fatally injured, and an instant after the carriage struck the side of a bridge and precipitated the mother and child over the railing to the rocks below, a distance of thirty-five feet, killing both instantly.

"What are you looking for?" asked one of Widow Redott's two daughters, who were entertaining their young fellows on the piazza rather late one night last summer, of their mother, who seemed to be hunting for something around the front yard. "The morning papers," answered the widow. The young men took the hint.

FATHER AND TWO SONS.

THEY MARRY A BLUSHING MOTHER AND TWO BLOOMING DAUGHTERS. Mr. J. L. Holcombe, a gentleman of Kentucky, but who has been in Crittenden County, Arkansas, for several months, tells the Little Rock Gazette of a rather remarkable though hardly unprecedented matrimonial affair, which occurred in that county recently:

Out from the line of the railroad and aside from almost any other very well-defined mark of civilization—marks so ill-delineated, in fact, that they are as a half-worn date on an ancient coin—there lived old man Rosebury and two sons, twins. (The age of the old man is rather doubtful, it is believed by his near neighbors, the nearest of whom are within a stone's throw, that is if the stone be thrown a mile and a half, that he is about fifty. The sons, being twin, are about the same age, twenty-two.) The nearest human habitation was a house occupied by a Mrs. Glenn and two daughters, though, pity to say, the daughters were not twins at the time of their birth, and have not yet succeeded in attaining that point. Mr. Rosebury fell deeply in love with Mrs. Glenn, and the two sons, Robert and John, fell equally as much so with the two daughters, Mary and Rachel. The most imaginable wholesale love-making ensued. The old man and widow seemed devoted to each other, and the younger people were sufficiently so to marry, which they all did on the same day. After the ceremony the six happy souls and the six happy bodies repaired to the residence of the husbands. Everything worked smoothly. The old man was very kind to his newly made daughters, particularly so to Rachel, the wife of his son John. The kindness increased and the other matrimonialists marvelled, one to another. The old man even disregarded the wishes of his wife, and Rachel snuffed her Grecian nose at her Roman-nosed husband. One morning, about two weeks after the marriage, the family of several divisions discovered that the old man and Rachel had gone. Searching and not being able to find them, but, learning from a ferryman that they had crossed the river into Tennessee, the family returned. Pretty soon an intimacy sprang up between Robert, Mary's husband, and the old lady. The old lady was so wise and had had such broad experience that Robert never grew tired of profiting by her counsel. Another disaster. Robert and the old lady ran away, leaving John and Mary, who seeing, as they were not blind, that they were left alone, clasped themselves in loving embrace, for it seems that they had loved each other from the first. Did they stay on the farm? No, sir. There is a mortgage on it. They packed up, and, according to the ferryman, went over into Tennessee.

Now, when the man layed him down to sleep, the mosquito of his childhood sought his couch, and saw the man his nose it was full of to look upon, and he said: "Go to, I will sing thee to thy sleep." And he sang, "Come rest in this buzz'em." But when the man awoke and heard the song, he would not, but smote the mosquito until the man his eye was blacked and his face was banded up. But the mosquito was laughing away off on the ultimate side of the room, where he was eating up the baby.

It's a deep mystery—the way the heart of a man turns to one woman out of all the rest he's seen in the world, and makes it easier for him to work seven years like Jacob did for Rachel, sooner than have any other woman for the asking. I often think of those words, "and Jacob served seven years for Rachel; and they seemed but a few days for the love he had for her."

Mrs. Hayes went into executive session the other day, introduced a bill providing that the President should wear his flannels until the first of June, suspended the rules, moved its third reading, had it engrossed, demanded the previous question, passed it by one majority and sent it to the President for approval.—*Bridgport Standard.*

Bob Ingersoll says the black man must go North, where there is fresh air. That is about what he will have to live on if he goes.